I. IN THIS ISSUE

From the Editor; Secretary-Treasurer's Report on 1990 Board Meeting; News on Monograph Series; Session Reports from 1990 Annual Meeting; Proposed Sessions for 1991 Annual Meeting; Biography of Honorary Fellow Saul Riesenberge; News and Notes; Bibliographic; Ballot for Election of New Board Members and Honorary Fellow.

II. FROM THE EDITOR

The 19th annual ASAO meeting has now come and gone. I think most of you will agree that it was a huge success. We may have had the largest turnout ever at an ASAO meeting. Participants attended from not only the United States and Canada but New Zealand, Australia, England, Indonesia, the island Pacific, and the Soviet Union. The number and variety of sessions also may well be a record. Personally, I was delighted to see so many of you, and I hope you all enjoyed Kaua'i as much as I did. I think I can safely speak for the association in expressing our appreciation to Suzy Pflanz-Cook for arranging one of the most attractive sites ever for an ASAO gathering.

The association also owes a major debt of gratitude to outgoing officers Margy Rodman and Dorothy Counts. Margy is succeeded as the association's Monograph Series Editor by Andrew Strathern, Mellon Professor of Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh. Dorothy has been replaced as Program Chair by Larry Mayo of Chicago's DePaul University.

Finally, let me extend a note of appreciation to Ben Finney for his retrospective on the Hokule'a project. The project's contribution, both to academic insight and promoting popular respect for the achievements of Pacific Islanders has been truly inspiring; and we hardly could have
found a more fitting way to end a meeting in Hawai'i.

Let me announce a new Newsletter feature: a directory of publications resulting from ASAO sessions. Those of us who have been with ASAO for some time feel that our association produces work of unusually high quality. To document that this is true, however, is a different matter. Titles in our Monograph series are readily accessible, but many members may be less aware of much fine work that originated with ASAO but ultimately was published elsewhere. The listing will help document what ASAO has meant to anthropology and Pacific Island studies. Moreover, it should be useful in lieu of the "ASAO History Project" that was proposed a few years back but never got off the ground. Because of the size of this issue, the directory will begin, in serial format, with the summer Newsletter. Please send your vitae by mid-July to ensure inclusion.

This year is almost one third gone, so by now your 1990 dues should all be paid. As in recent years, a red check mark on your mailing label indicates that your dues have yet to be received. If you are in arrears, please give the matter your immediate attention.

III. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT ON 1990 BOARD MEETING

The board voted to establish a registration fee at the Hawai'i meeting of $10.00 for students and $15.00 for others. For future meetings, beginning in 1991, the registration fee will be $25.00. The money is necessary to cover some of the meeting expenses such as slide projectors and VCR equipment.

Concern for low attendance at the midwest meetings and a sense that air fares are no cheaper for those sites led the board to decide to change the meeting rotation to a cycle of Pacific/West/East. The next site will be a West site, perhaps in British Columbia, otherwise in California.

The board decided that the ASAO Open House organized by Nancy McDowell, Chair-Elect, at the 1989 AAA meeting was successful and should be continued at future meetings.

ASAO officers presented their annual reports. Juliana Flinn, Secretary-Treasurer, reported that in 1989 ASAO had 262 voting members and fellows, 15 honorary fellows, and 26 institutional members. The balance in the account at the end of the year was $12,597.50. Rick Feinberg, Newsletter Editor, reported another successful year and some concern about rising costs with a projected postal increase. He also announced his resignation effective at the next annual meeting. Margy Rodman, Monograph Series Editor, reported that John Barker's manuscript on Christianity is now with University Press of America for printing and binding. She also mentioned the possibility of looking for another press to take over the series. Dorothy Counts, Program Chair, announced program changes. Susan Pflanz-Cook, Annual
Meetings Coordinator, reported that 191 registrants were expected at the hotel. To cut down costs and stress, she suggested the board consider repeating some sites, Asilomar being one possibility. Deborah Gewertz, Special Publications Editor, was not present at the meeting, and no report was submitted.

The board nominated David Counts, Ali Pomponio, Larry Carucci, and Bill Rodman as candidates for the two positions on the board being vacated by Jim Boutilier and Jim Flanagan. The board nominated Rhoda Metraux for the one opening for honorary fellow. Laura Thompson was nominated from the floor at the opening plenary session.

The board elected Leslie Marshall as the new Chair-Elect and confirmed the appointments of Andrew Strathern as ASAO Monograph Series Editor (replacing Margy Rodman) and Larry Mayo as Program Chair (replacing Dorothy Counts). The remaining officers were reappointed for another year.

IV. ASAO MONOGRAPH SERIES

Andrew Strathern, of the University of Pittsburgh, has been appointed to succeed Margaret Rodman as ASAO Monograph Series Editor. Andrew has successfully negotiated with the University of Pittsburgh Press to take over publication of the Series, to take effect after publication of John Barker's edited volume on Christianity in the Pacific. He plans to recommend for publication volumes which make a significant contribution to some aspects of anthropological theory as well as to Pacific ethnography, and which achieve an integration of theme between individual papers. These are attributes already seen in ASAO Monographs; and Andrew plans to build on this foundation further strengthening the Series. University of Pittsburgh's Press Committee will take part in the evaluation of manuscripts and the Press will assist in advertising the Series. The initial agreement between the Press and ASAO will be reviewed after a standard period of three years.

V. SESSION REPORTS FROM 1990 MEETING

Note: Because of an unusually short lead time and some apparent problems with mail delivery, a number of session reports have not been received as of press time. Reports not included here will appear in the summer Newsletter.

SYMPOSIA

THE UNITED STATES IN OCEANIA

Organizer: Larry Mayo (DePaul)

Participants:


Suzanne Falgout (Colby). American Anthropologists: Keeping Micronesian Traditions in Trust.

Juliana Flinn (Arkansas at Little Rock). Formal Schooling and the Peace Corps in Micronesia.

*Charles Forman (Yale). There is a Happy Land: Americanization and Religion in the Marshall and Caroline Islands.

Robert Franco (Kapiolani Community College). Movement Networks and "Relative" Economies in Samoa and Micronesia.

Larry Mayo (DePaul). The Militarization of Guamanian Society.

Mary McCutcheon (Smithsonian). Individual Land Tenure in Palau.

Carol Murry (Hawai'i). Primary Health Care Development in Pohnpei: Who Benefits?


Discussant: Jonathan Aleck (ANU).

*In absentia.

From fourteen to twenty persons attended some portion of the symposium. Ten of the session participants attended the meeting and summarized or discussed ideas to be incorporated into their papers, which had been precirculated. Following the presentations there was lively discussion of the papers and other topics on the theme of the impact of the United States in the Pacific islands, particularly concerning former American territories and possessions, and newly emerging political entities.

Based on comments and suggestions raised during open discussion and the deliberation of session participants, we plan to proceed with further revisions of papers to address common themes and seek publication of the papers as an edited volume. The focus of the volume will be narrowed to the cultural impact of the United States on Micronesia and American Samoa, a title more reflective of the islands considered in the papers.
ART AND POLITICS

Organizer: Karen Nero (UC, Irvine)

Participants:

Dorothy Billings (Wichita). The Politics of Theater: Contrasting Types of Performance in Melanesia: New Ireland, PNG.

*Bill Donner (Kutztown). It's the Same Old Song but with a Different Meaning: Community and Ethnicity in Sikaiana Expressive Culture. Sikaiana, Solomon Islands.

Alessandro Duranti (UCLA). The Conflict Between Beauty and Truth in Samoan Political Oratory. Western Samoa.


Juliana Flinn (Arkansas at Little Rock). Pulapese Dance: Using Tradition in Modern Contexts. Pulap, FSM.


Alan Howard (Hawai'i) and Jan Rensel (Hawai'i). Symbols of Power and the Politics of Impotence: The Molmahao Rebellion on Rotuma. Fiji.


Mimi Kahn (Washington). Imagining a Nation: To Whose Drum Does One Dance. Wamira, PNG.


Glenn Petersen (Baruch CUNY). Dancing Defiance. Pohnpei, FSM.


Pamela Rosi (Bryn Mawr). PNG's 'Bigpela Haus': A Model of and a Model for BUNG WANTAIM: PNG.


Karen Stevenson (Hawai'i). Politicization of La Culture Ma'ohi: The Creation of a Tahitian Cultural Identity. Tahiti.

* In absentia.
The discussant was unable to attend at the last moment, but each participant was responsible for providing comments on two other papers. The discussions were lively, particularly around the definitions and processes of the "Invention of Tradition" as opposed to the "Invention of Culture" or cultural transformation, and concepts of nationalism. We found contrasts in these processes in culturally homogeneous new nations, as opposed to heterogeneous new states which are attempting to forge a new national identity encompassing diverse cultural traditions. Artistic productions may be used to forge such identities; papers analyzed both successful and unsuccessful attempts. The papers covered a range of media: architecture, carvings, billboards and posters, dance, costume and fabric arts, national institutions and museums, literature, theater and oratory.

The papers stressed the active agency of artistic production, in contrast to the more passive view of art as "reflecting" culture and social structure, demonstrating ways art may be used either nonconfrontationally to effect change, or may even threaten or develop into active physical confrontation. Art may be the medium chosen to express dangerous sentiments (especially well demonstrated by Hereniko's video of his play The Monster about the Fiji coup staged in Fiji shortly after the first coup). Artistic productions may express, defuse, escalate, or resolve structural tensions, at times being used to unite disparate units and express unity and/or construct a social identity. They require specialized cultural knowledge to decode all levels of meaning, since the performance/productions often operate at several levels simultaneously, i.e., expressing the unity of the overall group while contrasting the autonomy and power of sub-unity. The messages of the representation may be intrinsically self-contradictory. Art may be used as an alternate medium of instruction and history-keeping of the historical events and cultural values of sub-groups, in direct contrast to Western-based educational institutions focused on written, often dominant historical interpretations. Papers were often lacking in analysis of the exchange/commodity nature of artistic production--an issue to be addressed in rewriting for publication.

The symposium decided to proceed to publication. The organizer is contacting appropriate publishers and attempting to obtain subvention to offset the cost of publishing a book heavily dependent upon visual as well as written images.

**MIGRATION AND TRANSFORMATIONS**

Organizers: Gabriele Sturzenhofecker (Pittsburgh) and Andrew Strathern (Pittsburgh)

This was a symposium which developed out of last year's working session and the previous year's informal session. Most of the participants from 1989 were able to be present this year, so that there was a considerable background of common understandings and aims developed earlier, reinforced by two discussion papers which
we had circulated. This year we were greatly strengthened also by
the participation of Murray Chapman as a general discussant,
recommended to us by Jim Watson who has kindly lent his presence
to our deliberations. The overall theme as it has taken shape is
one which looks to work on regional perspectives in New Guinea
over time and space as one of its intellectual precursors. Our
aim has been first to transcend the local and/or synchronic
perspectives of ethnographic fieldwork by looking at
interrelations and connections in a much broader way. While this
has been done for exchange systems, much less is known or
established about the total set of movements, or "circulations" in
the French sense (as suggested to us by Murray Chapman), of
people, ideas, artifacts, myths, and ritual cults, which have
helped to produce the extraordinarily complex set of "ethnic
mosaics" (in Fitz Poole's words), across the island of New Guinea
as a whole. Our intention was also to choose studies which would
link together analytically Irian Jaya and Papua New Guinea, and
our strategy in doing so was to concentrate on the immediate
prehistoric past as our point of reference, and to use information
from ethnography, linguistics, ethnohistory, and genetics, as well
as geography, in order to redraw parts of the cultural map. In
this way the papers have also been able to produce a graphic
picture of regional changes or transformations over time in New
Guinea, as well as to throw up a new set of questions and
perspectives which have to be answered by fieldwork.

Eight members of the symposium were physically present, and two
others--Bruce Knauft and Jim Roscoe--sent polished papers which
were summarized by the session organizers and made an integral
part of the overall discussion.

The participants agreed that the intellectual momentum generated
last year had been fully carried through to fruition this year and
capped by an excellent set of comments from Murray Chapman. The
session organizers will be in touch with the participants to set
deadlines and timetables for a published volume to emerge from
this enterprise.

WORKING SESSIONS

CUSTOM TODAY

Organizers: Geoffrey M. White (East-West Center) and Lamont
Lindstrom (Tulsa)

About 100 participants and audience met all day Friday to discuss
changing conceptions and uses of "custom" throughout the Pacific.
Participants included Jonathan Aleck (ANU), Michele Dominy (Bard),
Judith Fitzpatrick (Queensland), Juliana Flinn (Arkansas at Little
Rock), Robert Foster (Chicago), Douglas Hollan (UCLA), Margaret
Jolly (ANU), John Kirkpatrick (Community Resources), Hal Levine
(Victoria of Wellington, NZ), Monty Lindstrom (Tulsa), Ian Motkin,
Glenn Petersen (Baruch CUNY), Bill Rodman (McMaster), Margaret
Rodman (York), Karen Sinclair (Eastern Michigan), Adrian Tanner
(Memorial of Newfoundland), and Geoffrey White (East-West Center).
Roger Keesing (McGill), Jocelyn Linnekin (Hawai'i), and Bob Tonkinson (Western Australia) served as discussants. Session members unable to meet on Kaua'i include Bill Donner (Kutztown), Eve Pinsker (Chicago), David Ryniker and Ton Otto.

Presentations focused on the contemporary meanings and uses of custom in a range of Pacific societies, including Fiji, Hawai'i, New Zealand Maori and Pakeha, Papua New Guinea, Pohnpei, Pulap, Solomon Islands, Toraja (Indonesia), Torres Straits, and Vanuatu. Despite the diversity of cases presented, several themes crosscut many of the papers: Talk of custom is (1) about the present; (2) historically contingent; (3) oppositional, but not always exclusionary in its contrast with modernity, the West, urban life, Christianity, law, business, and the like; and (4) embedded in local processes of knowledge and power. After necessarily, if frustratingly, brief paper or pre-paper presentations, illuminating commentary from our three discussants, and a general review of the issues, we decided to move forward to convene a formal symposium during next year's meeting. Our papers will focus on three main issues. The first concerns the social (political/economic) context of "custom" as a folk category: its emergence and history; its definitional opposition to other categories, such as modernity, listed above; and regional variations within Pacific definitions of custom. The second issue concerns custom's contemporary uses within discourses of national identity and unity, on the one hand, and local autonomy and sovereignty on the other. The third, related, issue concerns the political claims inherent within particular definitions and uses of custom: how custom as a resource is contested; struggles to control customary images; the ways custom maintains or undermines existing power regimes; attempts at standardization; the status of anthropological representations of culture within all this; and so on. Two subsidiary issues we note in passing include differences in Western and Pacific epistemologies (what does it mean when we say that custom is "created" or "invented"), and the connection that some draw between a self-consciousness of custom and cultural inauthenticity.

Helpful commentary and audience participation are always welcome. Unfortunately, however, because of present numbers, additional papers cannot be accepted for next year's symposium. For information, contact Geoff White or Monty Lindstrom.

TOBACCO IN OCEANIA

Organizers: David Lewis (UC, San Francisco) and Mac Marshall (Iowa)

Participants:

Judith Barker (UC, San Francisco). Smoking and Drinking by Young Adult Females on Niue.

James Bindon (Alabama). Tobacco and Health in Samoa.
Terry Hays (Rhode Island). "No Tobacco, No Hallelujah": The Role of Missions in the Introduction of Tobacco to Eastern Papua.

Bernd Lambert (Cornell). The Naturalization of Tobacco in Kiribati.


*Doug Munro (Bond). Historical Introduction to Tobacco Use in Oceania.

Nancy Pollock (Victoria of Wellington). Tobacco is Good to Eat and Good to Share.

Usha Prasad (Guam). The Social Context of Smoking Among Fijian Nurses.

*In absentia.

The eight participants were joined by about a dozen ASAO members in far-ranging discussions of the papers. Presentations ranged from completed papers to outlines. A large number of issues emerged, indicating the importance of tobacco use for anthropological investigations of health, social organization, and political economy in Oceania. Major themes included 1) smoking as a major risk factor in chronic and infectious diseases in Pacific populations, 2) smoking as a diacritic which creates a new social context, 3) the varying attitudes towards smoking by missions in different regions and at different times, and 4) the economics of tobacco consumption, production, and marketing in Oceania. Session organizers extend their thanks to participants and audience who conducted insightful discussions during and after the session. Special thanks to Paul and Thelma Baker for their comments. Due to the uneven level of preparation of papers and the expressed desire of several members to join this session next year, we will hold another working session at next year's meeting.

SEAMANSHIP IN MODERN OCEANIA

Organizer: Rick Feinberg (Kent State)

PARTICIPANTS:


Larry Carucci (Montana State). Symbolic Imagery of Marshallese Sailing Canoes.

Phil Devita (SUNY-Plattsburgh). The Marquesan Mystique in Navigating the Tuamotus.
The session included presentations representing all the major cultures areas of Oceania. Six papers focused on Polynesia (Hawai'i, the Marquesas, Nukumanu, Rotuma, Samoa, and Sikaiana), three on Melanesia (Small Malaita, the Trobriands, and Vanatinai), one on Micronesia (the Marshalls), and one on Indonesia. Chuck Frake's discussion of where directions come from drew on data from the Middle East and medieval Europe in addition to the insular Pacific. Ward Goodenough acted as discussant and was very helpful in identifying common themes and directions.

One theme pervading all the presentations involved continuity and change. Discussions focused on communities that ran the gamut from those which have maintained much of their old equipment and technique (e.g., Vanatinai and Nukumanu) to those that have abandoned most of the old boats and ways of using them (e.g., Samoa and Rotuma). Yet, even on the islands where the greatest change has taken place, people retain traditional attachments to the sea. This is apparent in Samoan fishing and Rotumans working aboard European ships. Of particular interest, Tommy Holmes...
presented a collection of Hawaiian slides depicting the development from prehistoric paddles and canoes to modern windsurfing.

In resolving to continue with an eye toward publication, it was agreed that the contributions’ visual aspect is of critical importance. To that end, participants are encouraged to include in their papers diagrams, sketches, and photographs of boats and seafaring techniques.

Next year's symposium will be renamed "Continuity and Change in Oceanic Seafaring." Please bear in mind, however, that "seafaring" for purposes of this session need not mean *lengthy* voyaging. People whose relation to the sea is limited to inshore fishing are as important as Buck's Polynesian "Vikings" or intrepid Carolinians following their "Bird" across the ocean.

**INTENTIONALITY, TRUTH, AND RESPONSIBILITY**

Organizers:  Alessandro Duranti (UCLA) and Lamont Lindstrom (Tulsa)

Participants:

Andrew Arno (Hawai'i).  Reliance and Compulsion: Language, Communication and Causation in Fijian Conflict Management.

Niko Besnier (Yale).  The Truth and Other Malleable Objects in Nukulaelae Gossip.


Fred Errington (Mt. Holyoke) and Deborah Gewertz (Amherst).  On Writing the Chambri Bible: An Indigenous Ethnographer Consults with the Big Men about Truth, Justice, and the Chambri Way.

Lamont Lindstrom (Tulsa).  Is It Falsity or Falsehood in Tanna?

Edward LiPuma (Miami).  The Sorcery of Words and Evidence of Speech in Maring Justice.

William McKellin (British Columbia).  Intentionality, Authority and Epistemology in Two Genres of Managalase Narrative.


Glenn Petersen (Baruch CUNY).  'In the Weeds': An Absence of Truth, a Paucity of Power in Pohnpei.
Bambi Schieffelin (NYU). New Truths, New Words: Kaluli Literacy and Bible Instruction.

Discussants: Donald Brenneis (Pitzer) and Elinor Ochs (USC)

Most of the papers in the session addressed and dealt with the social construction of truth throughout Oceania (Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia), while intentionality and responsibility played a more limited, albeit important, role. Several papers centered on the use and ideology of truth as a technology for the definition of authority. Truth was seen as produced by and embedded within specific sociocultural practices such as dispute managements, sorcery trials, narratives, gossip, literacy instruction. Two of the papers in particular addressed the question of the consequences of the introduction of literacy for a predominantly oral culture. Ideologies of truth and the relationship between truth and accountability were also the subject of several of the papers. One of the positive outcomes of the session was the challenging collaboration between cultural and linguistic anthropologists. Language played a key role in the discussion but only within the context of rich ethnographic accounts. The session benefited tremendously from comments and questions from a committed and informed audience. The participants are particularly indebted to the two discussants, Donald Brenneis and Elinor Ochs, for their stimulating comments which resulted in insightful syntheses of the many points addressed and raised throughout the day.

**REPRESENTATIONS OF OCEANIA**

Organizers: Terence Hays (Rhode Island) and Paul Shankman (Colorado)

Participants:


Allan Burns (Florida). Always Kosrae: Representations of Kosrae People through Oral Literature, Autophotography, and Video.

Michele D. Dominy (Bard). Readings of Popular Culture: An Analysis of Photojournalistic Representations of New Zealand High Country Life.

James G. Flanagan (Southern Mississippi). Representing the Pacific: 101 Years of National Geographic.

Terence Hays (Rhode Island). Samoa for Students: A Survey of Introductory Textbooks in Anthropology.

Mac Marshall (Iowa). (Mis)Representations of Oceania: Depictions of Islands and Islanders by American Cartoonists.

Paul Shankman (Colorado), Tracy Ehlers (Denver), and Linda Hodge (Colorado). Areal Representation in Ethnography: A Preliminary Study.

Nicholas Thomas (ANU). European Interests in Pacific Islanders' Artifacts, c. 1770-1923.

Donna Winslow (Montreal). Le Pacifique dans l'imaginaire.

Marty Zelenietz (St. Mary's). Invisible Islanders: Melanesians in American War Mythology.

Two participants were unable to attend the meeting, but their papers were read or summarized, giving a total of 11 presentations. The session was heavily attended, and each paper elicited discussion and comments from participants and audience members. The last day of the meeting seemed to be a good time for people to appreciate handouts of cartoons, slides, videos, and audio tapes. The participants analyzed representations of Pacific islanders in the anthropological literature, textbooks, explorers' reports, missionary publications, mass media photographs and articles, cartoons, and visual materials produced by islanders themselves. Nearly all areas of the Pacific were included and even more will be added as several audience members, including Jocelyn Armstrong, Bob Franco, Mimi Kahn, and Karen Sinclair, have already indicated a wish to join us next year as we go the the symposium stage. All of the original participants and other potential members of the projected symposium should communicate in writing by June 1, 1990 to Terry Hays:

Anthropology/Geography
Rhode Island College
Providence, RI 02908.

INFORMAL SESSIONS

NATIONALISM AND NATIONAL CULTURE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Organizer: Robert Foster (Chicago)

Participants: Anton Ploeg (Utrecht); Geoff White (East-West Center); Jean-Marc Philibert (Western Ontario); Henry Rutz (Hamilton); Jane Fajans (Chicago); Laura Zimmer (UPNG); Rick Feinberg (Kent State); Bill McKellin (British Columbia); Margaret Jolly (ANU); Jeffrey Clark (James Cook); Tim Bayliss-Smith (Cambridge); Rev. Rufus Pech (Lutheran Mission, PNG); Wari Iamo (UPNG); Jim Boutilier (Royal Roads).

We met for over two hours to discuss a range of issues concerning the emergence of nationalist sentiment and national cultures in the new Pacific states. About half of us came with specific or
comparative research interests in Fiji, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands.

Our conversation identified several pertinent topics: the official nationalism of political elites; gendered differences within the discourse of nationalism; the role of mass consumption in constituting both new national and personal identities; the instrumental effects of schooling in socializing "citizens;" the rituals and ceremonies of nationhood; and the place of mass media and popular practices such as sports in generating nationalist sentiment. We also discussed negative instances in which a national culture and a sense of national identity have failed to develop.

In general, the themes of this session were continuous with those of several other sessions held this year (Art and Politics; Custom Today; Urban Cultures). Enough of the participants expressed interest in continuing the discussion to warrant a working session for next year. It was decided, however, to broaden the announced focus and to invite participation in the working session from anyone interested in nationalism and the making of national cultures in postcolonial Melanesia. A proposal will appear in the next Newsletter. Please send suggestions and inquiries to:

Robert Foster
University of Chicago
Social Sciences Collegiate Division
5845 S. Ellis Ave.
Chicago, IL 60637

POLLUTION REVISITED

Organizer: Jocelyn Linnekin (Hawai'i)

A dozen participants met to discuss the concept of pollution as it has been applied in the Pacific, and to consider the range of phenomena which anthropologists have identified as examples of pollution beliefs and practices. The notion of empowerment emerged as the predominant theme of the discussion. Questions raised included: To what extent and in what contexts do indigenous ideologies contrast 'purity' and 'defilement'? What are the sources and kinds of power that underlie the phenomena we have called 'pollution'? How is this generative, spiritual, or ambivalent power named, conceptualized, and channeled? The consensus was to proceed to a working session that would develop these issues under a title such as 'Pollution and Empowerment'.

RESEARCH IN IRIAN JAYA

Organizer: Jan A. Godschalk

Jos Meteray, head of the Social Planning Section of the Provincial Planning Office, attended the session as a guest, on behalf of the governor of Irian Jaya, Mr. Bas Suebu. He presented a proposal/invitation by the governor to ASAO to participate in a
project of making an "ethnographic inventory" of the cultures found in Irian Jaya (involving drawing up sociocultural guidelines as well as cultural maps), and thereby to assist the provincial government in designing and implementing development policies that, while adhering to national development plans, take into account environmental and cultural features unique to Irian Jaya, with the underlying idea that the Irianese themselves become active participants in the territory's self-development. The government faces two basic constraints. First, literature, if available, is not (readily) accessible, for most of it is written in languages other than Indonesian. Second, there are hardly any anthropologists available (within the country) to do the job. The governor recognizes the urgency of such a "mapping" project, and that was one of the reasons why he sent Mr. Meteray to the Hawai'i meeting.

A number of concerns and questions were raised, during and after the informal session. It was clarified that the ASAO itself cannot act as a counterpart, and this will be conveyed to the governor. Other questions related to the motivation behind the proposal, the role of the authorities in Jakarta with respect to Irian Jaya (the credibility issue), the program's design, and ownership of the data collected.

Since an invitation has been extended, the next step would be for a representative team to visit Irian Jaya, hopefully before too long, to meet with the various people, discuss whatever concerns there are and visit several areas of the province, in order to assess whether a cooperative venture of mutual benefit is possible. Jos Meteray would discuss this option with the governor. It appears that the government in Irian is committed to going ahead with this project. If there is a positive response to the proposal, an appropriate counterpart organization needs to be found or established on this side of the ocean.

For the time being, I will act as intermediary. If you, therefore, are interested, have ideas or suggestions, or want to participate, please contact:

Jan Godschalk
8444 Woodbine Avenue
Markham, Ontario
CANADA L3R 4X7
Phone: (416) 940-4519

MALARIA AND OTHER MAJOR DISEASES IN THE PACIFIC: PAST AND PRESENT

Organizers: John Cordell and Judith Fitzpatrick (Queensland Medical School)

We are renamed "Mosquito-Borne Diseases in Island Pacific and SE Asia." Our major focus is malaria but dengue and filariasis are also included. Topics of interest for next year's working session include population history and movement, land use and human
settlement, human biology, control programs and epidemiology, health services and ethnomedicine, and fashions and fads of international aid as related to mosquito-borne diseases. We are a diverse group representing sociocultural anthropology, medical anthropology and geography, cultural geography, and political science.

Participants in the working session will include Tim Bayliss-Smith (Cambridge), Jim Bindon (Alabama), John Cordell, B. Clarke, Judith Fitzpatrick (Queensland), David Gegeo (Hawai'i), A. Keesing, C. Langlas, N. Lewis, Leslie Marshall (Iowa, Discussant), Gene Ogan (Minnesota), and Salome Samou (Hawai'i). We welcome additional participants who can contribute to our themes surrounding the social, demographic and historical role of malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases and the vagaries of control programs in the island Pacific.

DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN CULTURES IN OCEANIA

Organizers: Jean-Marc Philibert (Western Ontario) and Christine Jourdan (McGill)

Participants: Richard Feinberg (Kent State), Robert J. Foster (Chicago), Wari Iamo (UPNG), Christine Jourdan (McGill), Roger Keesing (McGill), Larry Mayo (DePaul), Judith Modell (Carnegie Mellon), Jean-Marc Philibert (Western Ontario), Henry Rutz (Hamilton), Solrun Williksen-Bakker (Oslo), and Laura Zimmer (UPNG).

The session on Urban Culture(s) took place on Saturday March 24th, from 2:00 to 5:00. The meeting was attended not only by anthropologists, but by a historian, a geographer, and a sociologist. Even though it was labelled an informal session, the eight participants read or talked about papers that were close to being finished. Four other people committed themselves to joining the session next year.

Although on the surface there seemed to be wide diversity in the papers presented, an underlying theme linked these papers: identity, how it was generated, sustained, or renewed under conditions of urbanization. In that sense, the Urban Culture(s) session tied in nicely with the session on Custom and the session on PNG Nationalism. The topics addressed in the Urban Culture(s) session showed that the creation, negotiation, and spread of new cultural forms in urban settings pose interesting challenges to anthropological theory.

Participants have decided to move to a working session with a discussant next year. Anyone interested in joining next year should contact either Christine Jourdan or Jean-Marc Philibert.
FRIENDSHIP IN MODERN PACIFIC SETTINGS

Organizer: Jocelyn Armstrong (Illinois)

This session was designed to explore the nature and meaning of the friendship relationship in contemporary Pacific societies and, more generally, to help develop the anthropology of friendship.

Seven people attended the session and four others who were unable to attend expressed interest. Discussions elicited information on five general topics: (1) interplay of friendship and kinship; (2) gender and ethnic differences in friendship behavior; (3) contexts of friendship formation; (4) social significance of friendship exchanges; and (5) dynamics of friendship networks.

A working session is planned for the 1991 meeting. The list of prospective participants includes: Jocelyn Armstrong (Illinois), Judith Barker (UC, San Francisco), Larry Carucci (Montana State), Michele Dominy (Bard), William Donner (Kutztown), James Flanagan (Southern Mississippi), Christine Jourdan (McGill), Mark Mosko (ANU), Nancy Pollock (Victoria of Wellington), David Ryniker (Wichita State), and Rebecca Stephenson (Guam). Others who are interested please contact the organizer at:

Institute for Research on Human Development
University of Illinois
51 Gerty Drive
Champaign, Illinois 61820

SPIRITS OF THE PACIFIC: STUDIES OF POLYNESIAN SPIRITS IN CULTURE AND IN MIND

Organizers: Jeanette Mageo (UC, San Diego/University of Hawai'i) and Alan Howard (University of Hawai'i)

At the informal session we discussed types of possession in Polynesian cultures, including: possession by ancestors who wreak immediate justice upon persons harassing the possessed individual (who is usually of a low social status), and possession by notorious spirits (spirits with culture-wide reputations), often because of an infraction of sex/gender codes and roles by their victims (most commonly women).

Data about spirits from the various cultures studied by the individuals attending the session were also shared. We were surprised by the wealth of data that existed in the field notes of many participants, even of those who had not intended to study spirits when they undertook fieldwork. Parties interested in contributing papers to date include Richard Feinberg (Kent State), Grant McCall (New South Wales), Nancy Pollock (Victoria), Francis Hezel (Micronesian Seminar), Jeanette Mageo (UC, San Diego/Hawai'i), and Alan Howard (Hawai'i).

The purpose of next year's working session is to examine the function of spirits and of possession in Polynesian culture and
mind on the basis of data drawn from accounts of spirits in individual societies. On this basis we hope to update theory on Polynesian religious sensibilities. A broad ranging study of Polynesian religion has not been made since Handy's *Polynesian Religion* (1927). Perspectives on ethnographic data, as well as the corpus of data, have evolved in the interim. It is time for an update. We hope that the working session will provide a context for participants to develop novel lines of approach, both to historical texts, such as missionary accounts, and to current ethnographic material. Examining material on spirits may permit us to construct models of the 'cultural unconscious' of varying Polynesian societies, comprised of sociological, historical, political, psychological, cognitive, and other elements.

Persons interested in submitting papers for the working session should send a two to three page statement, outlining the nature of the data and their theoretical orientations either to Jeanette Mageo and/or Alan Howard.

Jeanette Mageo can be reached at the following addresses:

Until July 1st:

Anthropology Department  
University of Hawai'i-Manoa  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

July 1st through September 1st:

P. O. Box 3397  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

After September 1st:

Anthropology Department C-001  
University of California at San Diego  
La Jolla, California 92093

Alan Howard can be reached during spring and fall semesters at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

**ANTHROPOLOGY IN PALAU ROUND TABLE**

Kempis Mad, of the Belau National Museum, Dave Orak of the Belau Office of Cultural Affairs and Historical Preservation, DeVerne Smith, Peter Black, Mary McCutcheon, Karen Nero, Len Mason, and Ward and Ruth Goodenough met to discuss contemporary issues of research in Palau. This meeting was originally proposed by Palauan anthropologist Katharine Kesolei who could not join us at the last moment, and grew out of a 1979 ASAO symposium Len Mason organized on the Role of Anthropology in Micronesia. The 1979 session called for greater participation by Micronesians in conducting research and setting research priorities. Palauan researchers Mad and Orak reported that today there are considerable library and background resources available at their
institutions. DeVerne Smith reported Kesolei's concern that Palau is facing rapid social and economic change and that there are many topics on which Palauans need outsider assistance in conducting research. Researchers and administrators in Palau have formed the Belau Anthropological Institute (BAI) and request that researchers interested in conducting research in Palau contact BAI to obtain information on local research priorities and for information on obtaining a research permit. The Belau Anthropological Institute address is:

P. O. Box 666
Koror
Republic of Palau
96940

VI. PROPOSED SESSIONS FOR 1991 ANNUAL MEETING

As always, a number of sessions will continue at the coming meeting. These are noted in the session reports, above. Organizers are urged to keep the Newsletter informed of their sessions' status so that all developments may be passed on the the association's membership. In addition, two proposals for new sessions at the 1991 meeting are in hand. These are described below.

WORKING SESSION

REPRESENTATIONS OF HISTORY: MAKING AND USING HISTORY AND PREHISTORY IN THE PACIFIC

Organizers: John Terrell (Field Museum) and Terry Hunt (Hawaii)

We invite social anthropologists, folklorists, historians, archaeologists, and others to join in a working session at the next ASAO annual meeting to explore traditional, academic, and political uses of history (and prehistory) in the Pacific.

Recent studies have shown, for example, that archaeologists have written about Pacific prehistory in ways resembling Western folktale, that they have used Lapita pottery to talk about the wanderings of an Austronesian culture hero, and that they have generally seen Pacific culture history as a scholarly quest for the "origins" of "ancestral cultures" in particular places at particular times rather than as the study of dynamic historical processes of continuous formulation and reformulation.

It is also increasingly clear that foreign academic views of the past may differ from traditional constructions and uses of the past.

This working session will survey: (1) the "meaning" of the past for Pacific Islanders and foreign scholars; (2) academic, political, and nationalistic "uses" of the past; and (3) how individuals from different cultural and academic backgrounds "make" history in different ways.
If you are interested in this working session, contact John Terrell at Chicago's Field Museum or Terry Hunt at the University of Hawai'i.

**SPECIAL SESSION IN HONOR OF SIR RAYMOND FIRTH ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY**

Organizers: Karen Watson-Gegeo (Hawai'i) and Rick Feinberg (Kent State)

On 25 March 1991, ASAO Honorary Fellow Sir Raymond Firth will celebrate his 90th birthday. Sir Raymond's theoretical contributions and ethnographic work have been fundamental to the development of Pacific Islands ethnology. Many of us who conduct research in the Pacific have also been greatly influenced by him personally, as teacher or colleague.

The organizers plan to recognize Sir Raymond's contributions with a special ASAO session. Papers either should examine topics growing out of Raymond's theoretical and ethnographic interests or represent his influence on scholars who have worked with him as colleagues or as students.

Unfortunately, for reasons of age and health, Raymond will not be in a position to attend the session. Instead, the organizers ask that participants have finished papers at the time of the meeting to ensure that we have something tangible to share with him. In addition, Karen and Rick are looking into the possibility of a follow-up session at a time and place more conducive to Raymond's participation.

**VII. HONORARY FELLOW: SAUL RIESENBERG**

Glenn Petersen
Baruch College, CUNY

U. S. government policy has been responsible for producing four large cohorts of Micronesian anthropologists. In the 1980s, Historic Preservation funds recruited numbers of archaeologists. In the late 1960s and '70s, many who had first gone to the islands as Peace Corps Volunteers returned as ethnographers. In the 1950s, there were district anthropologists working on most of the larger islands. And in the 1940s the Coordinated Investigation of Micronesian Anthropology (CIMA) made it possible for nearly 30 graduate students to do fieldwork in living societies.

Saul Riesenberg was part of that earliest cohort. As Saul puts it, he would have done his work with a few old men, the last survivors of a Native American group in southern California's Tehachapi Mountains, had the government not come up with the funds for him to travel to a living society in the Pacific. Saul went to Pohnpei (still known as Ponape in those days) with CIMA in 1947 and '48. His report, "Ponapean Political and Social Organization," later became *The Native Polity of Ponape* (1968),
one of the finest studies of Micronesian social life ever published. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California in 1950.

Saul taught at the University of Hawai'i from 1949 to 1957, also serving as the Trust Territory's Staff Anthropologist (1953-54) and as an adviser to the government of American Samoa (1955-56). In 1957, he joined the Division of Ethnology (later the Department of Anthropology) at the Smithsonian Institution, where he worked until his retirement in 1979.

Though the use of history has only recently become fashionable in anthropology, Saul has long been an ethnohistorian. He edited Charles O'Connell's *A Residence of Eleven Years in New Holland and the Caroline Islands* (1972) after years of study in nearly every available Pacific island archive, and with Jack Fischer and Marjorie Whiting translated and edited the Pohnpeian-language manuscript history *The Book of Luelen* (1977). While he is best known for his Pohnpei research, Saul also worked on Puluwat (1967) and has published a good deal of material on the Central Carolines in addition to his voluminous writings on Pohnpei culture, society, and history.

Retired now in Miami, Saul remains as interested and as helpful as he was when I first dropped unannounced into his office in 1971, to tell him I planned to go to Pohnpei. Over the years he has provided data and good advice to every one of us who has come to him for assistance.

**VIII. NEWS AND NOTES**

**A. Pacific Affairs** is encouraging authors to submit papers on the South Pacific. Topics of particular interest are politics, economics, ethnicity and international relations. The journal has a diverse readership which includes anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists, economists, geographers, and historians. If you have any questions, write to Bill McKellin, or to the Managing Editor, Ian Slater. Manuscripts should be sent directly to the Managing Editor.

**B. Roger Keesing** has written to offer a historical note on the ASAO logo. According to Roger's recollection, the first meeting of the then ASAEO (Association for Social Anthropology in Eastern Oceania) was held at UC, Santa Cruz around 1969. The Center for South Pacific Studies at UCSC, which Roger was heading, served as Secretariat. When the question of a logo for the Newsletter arose, Roger suggested the Maori houseboard design, and pulled his father's book *The Changing Maori* off his shelf to illustrate. (The houseboard motif appears on the cloth cover.) The one that was used for the ASAEO logo was copied by Roger's student Research Assistant Gil Hendren (whose wife Diane was Secretary of the Center) from the design on the book cover. Little known facts that will live forever!
C. PIPSA. The Pacific Islands Political Studies Association met in December 1989 at the University of Guam. Participants who delivered papers include: Peter Larmour (University of Tasmania), Kenn Kassman (University of Hawai'i), Sam Kaima (University of Papua New Guinea), Colin Rubenstein (Monash University, Australia), Dirk Ballendorf (University of Guam), Jerry Loveland (Brigham Young University-Hawai'i), John Dalton (Monash University, Australia), Robert Smith (Chisholm Institute of Technology, Australia), Ted Wolfers (University of Wollongong, Australia), Larry Gerston (San Jose State University), Norman Meller, (University of Hawai'i), Leulu Va'a (National University of Samoa), Michael Ntumy (University of Papua New Guinea), and Donald Shuster (University of Guam).

A highlight of the PIPSA conference was a panel discussion on the future political status of Guam. Currently, there is a proposal before the United States Congress to enact legislation which would grant commonwealth status to Guam. The panel participants discussed other possibilities for Guam, including statehood or even independence from the United States.

Don Shuster was elected as PIPSA's new president. He was charged, along with his associates at the University of Guam, with the responsibility for developing a proposal for a permanent organizational format for PIPSA. His committee will also consider a place and time and topic for the next PIPSA gathering.

If you have any agenda items, write to:

Dr. Donald R. Shuster
University of Guam
College of Education
UOG Station, Mangilao, GUAM 96923

D. Pacific Islands Studies--Rockefeller Fellowships 1991-92. The Center for Pacific Islands Studies at the University of Hawai'i, invites applications for academic year 1991-92 for its Rockefeller Residency Fellowships in the Humanities. Fellowships are open to academic scholars at junior or senior rank, to independent scholars without academic affiliation, and to other qualified writers in Pacific Islands studies from any country. Fellows will work on an original book-length scholarly manuscript or major articles relating to one of the following topics under the theme "Identity and Change in Contemporary Pacific Cultures": (1) contemporary social, political, and religious movements in the Pacific; (2) indigenous Pacific literature; and (3) the interplay of Pacific art and politics.

Two fellowships will be awarded for academic year 1991-92 at a stipend of $30,000 plus fringe benefits for nine months. Appli
cations deadline is December 31, 1990. For application forms and further information write to:

Director
Center for Pacific Island Studies
School of Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Studies
1890 East-West Road
Moore Hall 215
University of Hawai'i
Honolulu, HAWAI'I 69822

E. Mrs. Marjorie Tuainekore Crocombe has recently taken up the post of Director of the Center for Pacific Studies at the University of Auckland. Formerly, Mrs. Crocombe was director of Extension Studies at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji.

F. Micronesia: Intellectual Images and Historical Discourses will be the topic of the Eighth Pacific History Association Conference to be held December 4-7, 1990 at the Micronesian Area Research Center, University of Guam. Sessions include: Interpreting Contact (Organizer: Robert Underwood, University of Guam); Gender Images and Constructions (Organizer: Laura Souder, University of Guam); Island Historiography (Organizers: George Boughton, University of Guam; David Hanlon, University of Hawai'i; and Karen Nero, University of California, Irvine); Geopolitical and Regional Perspective on the Pacific (Organizer: Robert Kiste, University of Hawai'i); Development in Micronesia (Organizer: Scott Russell, Division of Historic Preservation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands); and New Historical Movements (Organizer: Fr. Francis X. Hezel, S.J., Micronesian Seminar). For further information, please contact the relevant session organizer.

G. Janet Keller (University of Illinois, Urbana) and Rick Feinberg (Kent State) would like to meet informally with other reasearchers who have worked on Polynesian outliers. Since Janet may not be able to attend the 1991 ASAO meeting, this gathering would have to take place either at the AAA or a later meeting of ASAO. At this point, the aim is only to establish personal contact and communication about past and current research interests. If there is sufficient interest, however, it could lead to a more formal session at some future time. Anyone interested in exploring the possibilities, please contact either Janet or Rick at their respective institutions.

IX. BIBLIOGRAPHIC

A. Jonathan Fifi'i's autobiography From Pig Theft to Parliament: My Life Between Two Worlds, has been published by the University of the South Pacific and SICHE. The book, translated and edited by Roger Keesing, is about 200 pages and contains material on Maasina Rule. It is being sold in the Aruligo Bookshop Honiara for SI$8.00--a bargain made possible by subsidies from UNESCO and the Australian High Commission. It may
be purchased by mail through the University of the South Pacific Centre in Honiara; US$6.00 should cover postage and handling. A hard bound version should soon be available for about $12.

B. NEW BOOK ON VANUATU. *Nguna Voices: Text and Culture from Central Vanuatu* by Ellen Facey is now available. The book considers the processes of transcription and translation of oral literature and provides the entire corpus of (33) texts on which it is based, in both the original language (Ngunese) and in English. Sample inter-linears and an exhaustive glossary of Ngunese words complete the volume, which is published by the University of Calgary Press.

C. In May, the University of Michigan Press will publish Jocelyn Linnekin's book, *Sacred Queens and Women of Consequence: Rank, Gender, and Colonialism in the Hawaiian Islands*, in their Women and Culture series.

D. A recently released report on the economic prospects of the FSM, entitled *An Economic Assessment of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)*, is now available from the Economics Department of the Bank of Hawai'i. The complete report is available on request from:

Economics Department  
Bank of Hawai'i  
P. O. Box 2900  
Honolulu, HAWAI'I 96846

E. *The Pacific Theater: Island Representations of World War II*, edited by Geoffrey M. White and Lamont Lindstrom, is now available. As the Allied and Japanese armies poured into the Pacific, island societies began an extended period of contact with new peoples, goods, and technologies that was unlike the regimented, hierarchical interactions previously experienced. Islanders' recollections of the war, still vividly recalled today in stories, songs, and ceremonies, comprise a valuable but hitherto overlooked historical archive. This collection of essays makes use of these "war stories" to examine the significance of wartime events for island culture, identity, and history. Contributors include: Lamont Lindstrom, Geoffrey M. White, Lin Poyer, Karen L. Nero, William W. Donner, Marty Zelenietz, Hisafumi Saito, David Counts, Maria Lepowsky, Carl E. Thune, William H. Davenport, Suzanne Falgout, Charles de Burlo, James A. Boutilier, David W. Gegeo, Karen Ann Watson-Gegeo, Robert W. Franco. The book is 488 pages, with illustrations and maps. It is published in association with the Center for Pacific Islands Studies, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and is available in cloth for $34.00 from:

Order Department  
University of Hawai'i Press  
2840 Kolowalu Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
Another book on World War II by Monty Lindstrom and Geoff White is soon to be released by the Smithsonian Institution Press, and is entitled Island Encounters: Black and White Memories of the Pacific War. The book explores the massive and sudden contact between two worlds--powerful military forces and Pacific islanders--blending oral histories recorded in the islands after World War II with more than 175 photographs gleaned from hundreds of thousands reposing in Japanese newspaper morgues, the private albums of U.S. Veterans, and Allied Military archives. It is 240 pages, with 176 8 1/2 x 11 black and white photographs, and is available in cloth for $39.95 from:

Smithsonian Institution Press
Department 900
Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17294-0900
Phone: (717) 794-2148